

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-20. (canceled)

21. (new) Process for cleaning pieces soiled with organic material, comprising contacting said pieces with a cleaning fluid in a washing unit (1) thereby to load the cleaning fluid with organic material from the pieces, thereafter degrading the organic material in the cleaning fluid with living microorganisms in a processing unit (2), and thereafter subjecting at least a portion of the cleaning fluid to at least partial sterilization so as to reduce the presence of living organisms that have entered the cleaning fluid from the processing unit (2).

22. (new) Installation for cleaning pieces soiled with organic material, comprising a washing unit (1) for contacting said pieces with a cleaning fluid thereby to load the cleaning fluid with organic material from the pieces, a processing unit (2) for thereafter degrading the organic material in the cleaning fluid with living microorganisms, and means (2) for thereafter subjecting at least a portion of the cleaning fluid to at least

partial sterilization so as to reduce the presence of living organisms that have entered the cleaning fluid from the processing unit (2).

23. (new) Installation according to claim 22, wherein the means (12) for sterilization of the cleaning fluid conducts sterilization by heat or radiation or ultraviolet or by chemical mode thereby to have a bactericidal or bacterio-static action on microorganisms in said cleaning fluid.

24. (new) Installation according to claim 22, wherein the processing unit (2) traversed by the cleaning fluid from the washing unit (1) comprises at least one processing chamber (2A) filled with a filtering material (3) on which the living microorganisms are immobilized and through which the cleaning fluid circulates.

25. (new) Installation according to claim 24, wherein the filtering material (3) moreover contains nutrient elements for the microorganisms.

26. (new) Installation according to claim 24, wherein the processing chamber (2A) of the processing unit (2) within which the cleaning fluid is treated by contact with living microorganisms, communicates with a chamber (2B) for

recovery and storage of the fluid from the processing chamber (2A), this chamber (2B) being provided on the one hand with a circuit (5) for recirculation of fluid toward the processing chamber (2A), on the other hand by means (4) for connection with the washing unit (1) for circulation of the fluid in the direction of the washing unit (1).

27. (new) Installation according to claim 24,

wherein the processing chamber (2A) of the processing unit (2) within which the cleaning fluid is treated by contact with living microorganisms, communicates with a chamber (2B2) for recovery and storage of the fluid from the first treatment chamber (2A), this chamber (2B2), provided with a circuit (5) for recirculation of fluid toward the treatment chamber (2A), being itself in communication with a supplemental chamber (2B1) constituting an interface of other chambers of the processing unit with the washing unit, this interface chamber (2B1) comprising means (4) for connection with the washing unit (1) to provide circulation of fluid to the washing unit (1).

28. (new) Installation according to claim 27,

wherein the interface chamber (2B1) between the other chambers of the processing unit (2) and the washing unit (1) supplies with fluid the other chambers of the processing unit by means of a de-oiling device (14).

29. (new) Installation according to claim 26,

wherein the sterilizing means (12) are positioned in the connection between two chambers of the processing unit, in particular in the circuit (5) for recirculation of fluid between the processing chamber (2A) and the chamber (2B, 2B2) for recovery and storage of the fluid from the processing chamber (2A) or in the connection means (4) between the processing unit (2) and the washing unit (1) or in one of the chambers of the processing unit (2).

30. (new) Installation according to claim 29,

wherein the sterilization means (12) are positioned between the processing chamber (2A) and the chamber (2B, 2B2) for recovering storage of fluid processed in the processing unit (2) such that the fluid from the processing chamber (2) reaching the other chamber (2B, 2B2) is sterile.

31. (new) Installation according to claim 28,

wherein the processing chamber (2A) of the processing unit (2) is positioned suspended above the chamber (2B, 2B2) for storage of fluid processed in the processing unit (2).

32. (new) Installation according to claim 24,

wherein the washing unit (1) is provided with an outlet for the evacuation of fluid in the interior of which is provided the processing chamber (2A) of the processing unit (2).

33. (new) Installation according to claim 21,

wherein the processing unit (2) is provided with connection means (4) with the washing unit (1) for circulation of the fluid in the direction of the washing unit (1), the sterilization means (12) being positioned in the connection channel between said units (2, 1).

34. (new) Installation according to claim 23,

Wherein the processing unit (2) traversed by the cleaning fluid from the washing unit (1) comprises at least one processing chamber (2A) filled with a filtering material (3) on which the living microorganisms are immobilized and through which the cleaning fluid circulates.

35. (new) Installation according to claim 27,

wherein the sterilizing means (12) are positioned in the connection between two chambers of the processing unit, in particular in the circuit (5) for recirculation of fluid between the processing chamber (2A) and the chamber (2B, 2B2) for recovery and storage of the fluid from the processing chamber

(2A) or in the connection means (4) between the processing unit (2) and the washing unit (1) or in one of the chambers of the processing unit (2).

36. (new) Installation according to claim 29,  
wherein the processing chamber (2A) of the processing unit (2) is positioned suspended above the chamber (2B, 2B2) for storage of fluid processed in the processing unit (2).

37. (new) Installation according to claim 30,  
wherein the processing chamber (2A) of the processing unit (2) is positioned suspended above the chamber (2B, 2B2) for storage of fluid processed in the processing unit (2).

38. (new) Installation according to claim 25,  
wherein the washing unit (1) is provided with an outlet for the evacuation of fluid in the interior of which is provided the processing chamber (2A) of the processing unit (2).

39. (new) Installation according to claim 26,  
wherein the washing unit (1) is provided with an outlet for the evacuation of fluid in the interior of which is provided the processing chamber (2A) of the processing unit (2).

40. (new) Installation according to claim 27,  
wherein the washing unit (1) is provided with an outlet for  
the evacuation of fluid in the interior of which is provided the  
processing chamber (2A) of the processing unit (2).